

**To:** Schmittziel, Paula[Schmittziel.Paula@epa.gov]  
**From:** Dan James  
**Sent:** Fri 9/19/2014 3:11:43 AM  
**Subject:** Re: FW: Request for Access to Sample the Animas River  
[2014-09-18 EPA consent for access 2014 001.jpg](#)  
[2014-09-18 EPA consent for access II 2014 001.jpg](#)

Hello Paula,

Thank you for your persistence. That is what it takes this time of year.

I really look forward to cooperating with the EPA to help figure out what is going on with the Animas River water. We irrigate off of the Animas Consolidated Ditch which diverts from the Animas River and travels the length of the valley on the west side. Over the course of the past five years or so, the ditch has developed a lot of green slimy vegetation (moss). I remember fishing in this same ditch as a kid and never seeing this growth. Now our ditch shareholders have pump intakes plugging with this vegetation. I suspect (uneducated) that it is nutrient load. With the continuous development of the upper Animas Valley, and the subsequent numerous waste water treatment facilities, I am suspicious. The only evidence I have is anecdotal but the fact remains.

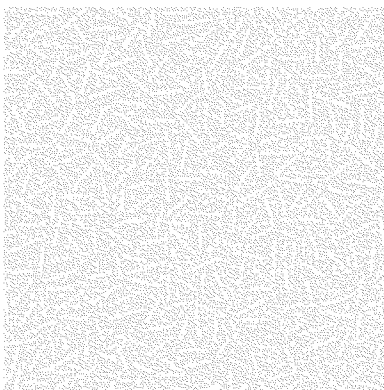
Thanks and let me know if there is anything else I can do for you.

Best,  
Dan

Dan James  
James Ranch Artisan Cheese  
James Ranch Whey-good Pork  
Durango, CO

**Personal Phone/Ex. 6**

[www.jamesranch.net](http://www.jamesranch.net) On 9/18/2014 4:43 PM, Schmittziel, Paula wrote:



Dear Mr. James: I hope that you had received my earlier email with the Consent for Access form following our phone conversation about 2 weeks ago and that you just haven't had a chance to sign and return it. We will be sampling on the Animas River next week and would very much like to sample the river from your property.

If you have any questions, please feel free to give me a call on my cell phone – 720-951-0795 as I will be out of the office tomorrow and on my way to Silverton-Durango on Monday. I may try and contact you on Monday and see if I could pick up the signed form from you on my way to Silverton from Durango.

Thank you.

Paula Schmittdiel

Remedial Project Manager

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

1595 Wynkoop St.

Denver, CO 80202

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**From:** Schmittdiel, Paula

**Sent:** Monday, September 08, 2014 12:40 PM

**To:** James Ranch ([cheese@jamesranch.net](mailto:cheese@jamesranch.net))

**Subject:** Request for Access to Sample the Animas River

Mr. James – Per our phone conversation last week, attached to this email is a cover letter and a form for Consent for Access. If you could sign the Consent for Access and return it to EPA, it would be most helpful. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact.

Thank you.

Paula Schmittdiel

Remedial Project Manager

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

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